An
Inaugural Dissertation
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The Physiology of the Appetites,
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Physiology of the Appetites.

Life is but the phenomena that spring from the chemical combination of certain natural elements, which by their materiality give substance and construction to the organism, while their forces by the power of their combinations in action and reaction, hold in equilibrium the phenomena of which we have spoken.

It is a principle in this combination that life is only perfect when each constituent element is in proper combining quantity, with no deleterious impurities from contaminating influences

While this combination is perfect,

there are no abnormal influences to disturb.

There is another principle in these natural affinitive forces, upon which hangs all the laws which govern the special instincts which we are endeavoring to discuss

In the human construction, we recognise by the tests of chemical science certain of the organic and inorganic Materials which are abundant in nature.

These elements are endowed with that power of affinity, by which the absence of the most infinitesimal influence (which renders the combination perfect) will throw into disorder.

Thus if water (the solvent element) is-

withheld, the system looses its vigor, from the fact that nutrition is impaired for want of transportation by the proper solusive fluid, and the life sinks for want of this mechanical agent, which also carries its vital forces into the great reactive combination.

If oxygen is withheld, we observe a complete distruction of the whole combination. Why? By our observations and research, we have determined the part to be played by this agent, to be the extremely essential force which promotes the reactions which conduce to purification; from the deleterious action of decaying and effete matter.

If all natural nutritious materials are withheld, the body does not only emaciate, but the vigor and activity of life sinks in full proportion.

The instinctive sinking life reaching out by the agony of dissolution, for the elements needed to replenish the deficient part. The brain educated to select by the experience of the feelings. In this last principle, we recognise the normal law of the appetites.

What creates this instinct? The same influence in natural combinations which causes two positive electric elements first to attract, then to repel. A fine principle of chemical force whose instinctive action has-

not yet been fully elucidated in natures complex and intricate phenomena of actual combinations.
The human mind, only able to unravel the superficial and most palpable of these.
When we are compelled to recognise these principles in the normal, that natural combinations vary from the grass and perceptible to the finest and imperceptible, which shows an existence only in their multifarious phenomena.
Experiment has taught another principle in the law of chemical combinations. Natural elements combine naturally when put together according to the law of affinity.

When so put together for a natural purpose, they are not excluded from another intuitive faculty by which all the forces of nature retain to themselves in their almost infinite number of combinations.

In the human organism we are wont to observe all shades of health, and an almost infinite variety of tastes and appetites. The Chinaman smokes and chews his Opium, with the ardor of an enthusiastic dreamer of the paradise of human existence. The whisky drinker hugs his bottle with the tenacity of one who clings with an almost frenzied delight, to the sweetest moments of his life.

The tobacco chewer looses his favorite plug when far from his base of supplies, and his almost insane anxiety excites our extreme commiseration. The chlorotic female hankers for charcoal, slate-pencils, chalk, raw-potatoes, flour uncooked; and many other things to numerous to mention. Why is it results from a principle which science long since elucidated. There are elements which combine to give us normal life, with normal appetites. These normal combinations are capable of coalescing and assimilating with elements unnatural to the habitudes of the system. As these combinations change (many of them are the educational principles)

so changes the normal conditions of life and its appetites.

To draw the line between the noturol and the unnoturol, we have but to refer to the fact thot alcoholic stimulants or narcotics never agreebly amalgamate with the vital elements of normal life, until by a course of constant or periodical administration, they finally assimilate and even become the leading propensity of the appetites. So, as the chemical combinations of the vital forces change; so changes the conditions of the appetites.